

## **Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA**

## **§ 1215.26**

Board is to be made. The call shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

(i) A list of the vacancies for which nominees may be submitted and qualifications for nomination; and

(ii) The date by which the names of nominees shall be submitted to the Secretary for consideration to be in compliance with paragraph (a) of this section.

(3)(i) Nominations for each position shall be made by processors. Notice shall be publicized to all processors.

(ii) All processors may participate in submitting nominations.

(4) Two nominees must be submitted for each vacancy. If processors fail to nominate a sufficient number of nominees, additional nominees shall be obtained in a manner prescribed by the Secretary.

(b) The Secretary shall appoint the members of the Board from nominations made in accordance with paragraph (a).

(1) The Secretary may reject any nominee submitted. If there is an insufficient number of nominees from whom to appoint members to the Board as a result of the Secretary's rejecting such nominees, additional nominees shall be submitted to the Secretary in a manner prescribed by the Secretary.

(2) Whenever processors cannot agree on nominees for a position on the Board under the preceding provisions of this section, or whenever they fail to nominate individuals for appointment to the Board, the Secretary may appoint members in such a manner as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(3) If a processor nominates more than one officer or employee, only one may be appointed to the Board by the Secretary.

### **§ 1215.23 Acceptance.**

Each individual nominated for membership of the Board shall qualify by filing a written acceptance with the Secretary at the time of nomination.

### **§ 1215.24 Term of office.**

(a) The members of the Board shall serve for terms of three years, except that members appointed to the initial Board shall serve, to the extent prac-

ticable, proportionately for terms of two, three, and four years.

(b)(1) Except with respect to terms of office of the initial Board, the term of office for each Board member shall begin on the date the member is seated at the Board's annual meeting or such other date that may be approved by the Secretary.

(2) The term of office for the initial Board member shall begin immediately following the appointment by the Secretary.

(c) Board members shall serve during the term of office for which they are appointed and have qualified, and until their successors are appointed and have qualified.

(d) No Board member may serve more than two consecutive three-year terms, except as provided in § 1215.25(d). Initial members serving two- or four-year terms may serve one successive three-year term.

### **§ 1215.25 Vacancies.**

(a) To fill any vacancy occasioned by the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of any member of the Board, the Secretary may appoint a successor from the most recent nominations submitted for positions on the Board or the Secretary may obtain nominees to fill such vacancy in such a manner as the Secretary deems appropriate.

(b) Each such successor appointment shall be for the remainder of the term vacated.

(c) A vacancy will not be required to be filled if the unexpired term is less than six months.

(d) If an unexpired term is less than 1.5 years, serving the term shall not prevent the appointee from serving two successive three-year terms.

(e) A Board member shall be disqualified from serving on the Board if such individual ceases to be affiliated with the processor the member represents.

### **§ 1215.26 Removal.**

If a member of the Board consistently refuses to perform the duties of a member of the Board, or if a member of the Board is known to be engaged in acts of dishonesty or willful misconduct, the Board may recommend to

## § 1215.27

the Secretary that the member be removed from office. Further, without recommendation of the Board, a member may be removed by the Secretary upon showing of adequate cause, including the failure by a member to submit reports or remit assessments required under this part, if the Secretary determines that such member's continued service will be detrimental to the achievement of the purposes of the Act.

### § 1215.27 Procedure.

(a) At a properly convened meeting of the Board, a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

(b) Each member of the Board will be entitled to one vote on any matter put to the Board, and the motion will carry if supported by a simple majority of those voting. At assembled meetings of the Board, all votes will be cast in person.

(c) In lieu of voting at a properly convened meeting and, when in the opinion of the chairperson of the Board such action is considered necessary, the Board may take action upon the concurring votes by a majority of its members by mail, telephone, facsimile, or any other means of communication. If appropriate, any such action shall be confirmed promptly in writing. In that event, all members must be given prior notice and provided the opportunity to vote. Any action so taken shall have the same force and effect as though such action had been taken at a properly convened meeting of the Board. All votes shall be recorded in Board minutes.

(d) Meetings of the Board may be conducted by electronic communications, provided that each member is given prior notice of the meeting and has the opportunity to be present either physically or by electronic connection.

(e) The organization of the Board and the procedures for conducting meetings of the Board shall be in accordance with its bylaws, which shall be established by the Board and approved by the Secretary.

### § 1215.28 Compensation and reimbursement.

The members of the Board shall serve without compensation but shall be re-

## 7 CFR Ch. XI (1-1-05 Edition)

imbursed for necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by such members in the performance of their responsibilities under this subpart.

### § 1215.29 Powers.

The Board shall have the following powers:

(a) To administer the Order in accordance with its terms and provisions;

(b) To make rules and regulations to effectuate the terms and provisions of the Order;

(c) To select committees and subcommittees of Board members, including an executive committee, and to adopt such bylaws and other rules for the conduct of its business as it may deem advisable;

(d) To appoint or employ such individuals as it may deem necessary, define the duties, and determine the compensation of such individuals;

(e) To disseminate information to processors or industry organizations through programs or by direct contact using the public postal system or other systems;

(f) To propose, receive, evaluate and approve budgets, plans and projects of popcorn promotion, research, consumer information and industry information, as well as to contract with the approval of the Secretary with appropriate persons to implement plans and projects;

(g) To receive, investigate, and report to the Secretary for action any complaints of violations of the Order;

(h) To recommend to the Secretary amendments to the order;

(i) To accept or receive voluntary contributions;

(j) To invest, pending disbursement pursuant to a program, plan or project, funds collected through assessments authorized under this Act provided for in § 1215.51, and any other funds received by the Board in, and only in, obligations of the United States or any agency thereof, in general obligations of any State or any political subdivision thereof, in any interest bearing account or certificate of deposit or a bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System, or in obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;